

File
BIOC GENERAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 1970 MINUTES

Report of the meeting of the Business & Industrial Coordinating Council held on Monday, November 2, 1970 - Vail Hall, N. J. Bell Telephone Co., 540 Broad Street Newark, New Jersey.

PRESENT:

Ruth McClain - Co-Chairman
Roland E. Stewart - Exec. Director
Jules H. Lozowick
J. E. Partenhimer
Henry Boardman
Fred J. Frerichs
George Birmingham
John Maguire
John S. Clarkson
Ken Donaldson
M. B. Wilcox
Donald Hagen
J. W. Helmstaedter
Jack A. Mayers
Jerome Wilson
Donald Sweetser
Mrs. Tony O'Flaherty
Pedro Iglesias
Dennis McCarthy
Roslyn Rosenthal
Leslie Rupperecht
Ralph H. Grabow
H. J. Hautau
Robert Neff
James S. Henderson
Martin Parker
William G. Kosky
George E. Wibecon
Rev. Joseph A. Stulb
Edwin E. Bess
Joseph P. Earley
Connie Woodruff
Durecia Watley
Norman Hill
Alvin D. Moore, Jr.

Greater Newark Urban Coalition
BIOC
Western Electric
BIOC
Western Electric - Yearny
Fireman's Fund Amer. Ins. Co.
Hahne & Company
Public Service Gas & Electric Co.
Mutual Benefit Life
Mutual Benefit Life
Westinghouse Electric Corp.
N. J. Bell Telephone Co.
N. J. Bell Telephone Co.
Mayers Industrial Lithe
Y M C A - Southwest Br.
Newark Teacher's Association
Essex County Welfare Board
Newark Pre-School
Greater Newark Chamber of Commerce
N. J. State Employment Service
Newark Public Library
BIOC
Weston Instruments Corp.
U. S. Savings Bank
Project Equality
Hospital & Health Council
R.C.A. Corporation
Prudential Insurance Co.
Blessed Sacrament Church - Newark
Rambroer's
Consolium Industries
I.L.G.W.U.
Newark Teacher's Union
A. Phillip Randolph Institute- New York
C.O.P.E.

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Co-Chairman, Mrs. Ruth McClain, with self introduction of all present. Mrs. McClain asked for reports from the committee's.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE - Mr. Henry Boardman gave a brief report on the Executive Committee's meeting held last Monday, October 26, 1970, in reference to the unemployed Spanish-American's who need help in learning English and in seeking employment. Ruth McClain indicated that a survey report by Mr. Pedro Iglesias on "What has been done for the Spanish People in Newark?", as far as employment goes, will be sent to everyone shortly.

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE: Mr. Burton indicated that shortly the employment committee and the Testing Committee will get together to find out the ways which they can reexamine the commitment list of the number of BICC companies that have maintained the hiring of minority people.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: Mr. Clarkson indicated he'll have his report at the next meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mr. Stewart showed slides of different areas of Newark, New Jersey. Mr. Stewart briefly spoke on the booklet which was passed out on the Computer Matching System and how it works. It is designed to match people to jobs or training situations. It predicts relative success and reduces employee turnover.

Mrs. Woodruff introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Norman Hill, of A. Philip Randolph Institute, New York, N. Y. Here are some highlights of Mr. Hill's speech.

There is an acceleration of job and economic opportunities for masses of black, Puerto Rican and other minorities in an integrated, expanding economy. Negroes are 11% of population but have 3/5 the income of whites; 64% of the total income of American families; represent 1/3 of families in poverty and own 2% of American wealth produced by American families.

Some progress has been made but the number of non-whites holding lower paying skilled and semi-skilled operative jobs rose to 42% in 1969 from 38% in 1960. Comparable figure for whites is 27% in 1969 - 26% in 1960. The unemployment rate is 9% for Negroes, 34.9% among black youth, not including those working for poverty wages and those working part-time or who have given up looking for work.

The rising quality of black labor force is as follows:

- 1960 - 50% of black youth in labor force were high school graduates
- 1969 - 78% of non-white youth in labor force were high school graduates
- 82% of white youth in labor force were high school graduates
- 1960 - 2% of Negroes in the labor force were college graduates
- 1968 - 4.25% of Negroes in the labor force were college graduates

A critical examination of problem areas indicates building trades have a history of exclusion. The real measure of progress for minorities in building trades should include:

- (1) Guidelines for affirmative action programs
- (2) firm commitment from unions and contractors,
- (3) involvement of minority community and top political leadership in overseeing implementation.
- (4) pre-apprenticeship programs for those not having completed high school
- (5) apprenticeship; journeyman trainee - for those too old to qualify for apprenticeship and/or not having education qualification for apprenticeship but having construction work experience on small non-union jobs in the ghetto; and journeymen.

There is a need for full employment programs to increase opportunities for black workers and decent jobs for white workers based on the Freedom Budget for all Americans. The Freedom Budget would create more jobs in the construction industry by the investment of resources and build decent housing and other needed public facilities.

A survey of 247 companies made by the McKinsey's & Company, the large management consulting firm, released a seven-month study which revealed that:

- (1) business support of urban programs is waning
- (2) public and government pressure is lessening
- (3) declining economy
- (4) a growing conservatism in the country with less social spending
- (5) the cost of urban programs have been underestimated

Mr. Hill indicated that motivation for involvement of business in urban problems are:

- (1) the corporate image
- (2) compliance with requirements for federal contracts
- (3) insurance against boycotts and violence
- (4) profit from sales in minority group markets

He further felt that the relationship of economics to politics are solid economic foundations for enhancing prospects for genuine political power.

Black people in Chicago exercise greater independence as they get better jobs and leave from the poor ghetto on the West side to a somewhat better ghetto on the South side.

The strategy to fight inflation politically is whether inflation and rising prices are fought through unemployment which puts a burden on minorities, the poor and working people, or through taxing the rich and corporations.

There was a brief question and answer period related to the A. Philip Randolph Institute itself.

How does the Institute operate, and what is their function?

Mr. Hill pointed out that the institute was founded in 1964 by Mr. A. Philip Randolph with these ideas:

To unite people with work that is suitable for them; by having programs such as education and employment. The Institute is also designed to abolish discrimination: it tries to get unions to commit themselves to help black people. It has 45 cities which have black trade unions.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. Next BIOC General Meeting Dec. 7, 1970.

Respectfully submitted
Katherine Morton
Secretary